



Midpeninsula Regional  
Open Space District

## LEGISLATIVE, FUNDING, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

R-18-05

January 16, 2018

### AGENDA ITEM 3

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Consideration of Commemorative Trail and Bench for Stephen E. Abbors in the Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve

#### ACTING GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Forward to the full Board of Directors a recommendation to confer special recognition on Stephen E. Abbors by renaming the PG&E Trail in the Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve to the Stephen E. Abbors Trail and to install a commemorative bench and plaque at the intersection of the PG&E and Upper Wildcat Canyon Trails.

#### SUMMARY

Stephen "Steve" Abbors, the District's most recent General Manager retired on December 30, 2017. The Board has expressed interest in renaming a trail in recognition of extensive contributions Steve has made to the District in his more than nine years here. If approved by the Board of Directors, the bench, plaque, and installation of new trail signage would cost approximately \$3,125. The FY2017-18 budget includes sufficient funds to cover the associated expenditures.

#### DISCUSSION

Steve Abbors joined the District in 2008 as its third General Manager and subsequently led the District through numerous successful projects, including the opening of Mount Umunhum and La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve for public access and the passage of Measure AA. Over the course of his tenure, General Manager Abbors has worked with the Board and staff to add 7,608 acres of newly protected lands to maintain and grow the regional greenbelt and increased public access to and within Midpen preserves.

Under Steve's leadership, the District in 2014 successfully passed Measure AA to fund \$300 million in capital projects over the following 30 years, which will help the District increase land restoration, acquisition, and public access throughout the District. To date, these funds have helped fund projects at Mount Umunhum, Bear Creek Redwoods, and La Honda. Measure AA funds will also help fund the District's largest proposed acquisition to date of San Jose Water Company land in Santa Clara County, which streamlined acquisition was recently approved by the California State Legislature, in large part due to Steve's steady leadership in championing the bill.

Renaming the PG&E Trail is consistent with Board Policy 5.01 *Site Naming and Special Recognition*, which includes the following criteria:

**III. SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

The Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee (LFPAC) shall be the committee designated to discuss all requests that meet the criteria of the policy for special recognition, made by members of the Board of Directors or by members of the public, including bench memorials and the naming of bridges, and after deliberation shall decide which requests will be referred to the full Board for a vote.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed trail renaming and bench installation.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The material and construction cost of the recommended actions will be approximately \$3,125. This item would be paid for from existing funds in the FY2017-18 Budget and includes the following elements:

- Cost of a standard bench with personalized plaque: \$1,375 in materials
- Cost of assembling and installing the bench: \$500
- Cost of updating and adding signage: \$1,250
- Cost of adding the name on the District’s maps: No extra cost will be incurred because the District will continue to use the existing maps until they run out. The new trail name and bench will be shown on maps as they are reprinted over time.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act.

**CEQA COMPLIANCE**

This item is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act.

**NEXT STEPS**

If the LFPAC confirms the General Manager’s recommendation, staff will prepare it for a future Board of Directors meeting for approval.

Attachments

1. Site map
2. Board Policy 5.01 *Site Naming, Gift and Special Recognition*

Responsible Department Head:

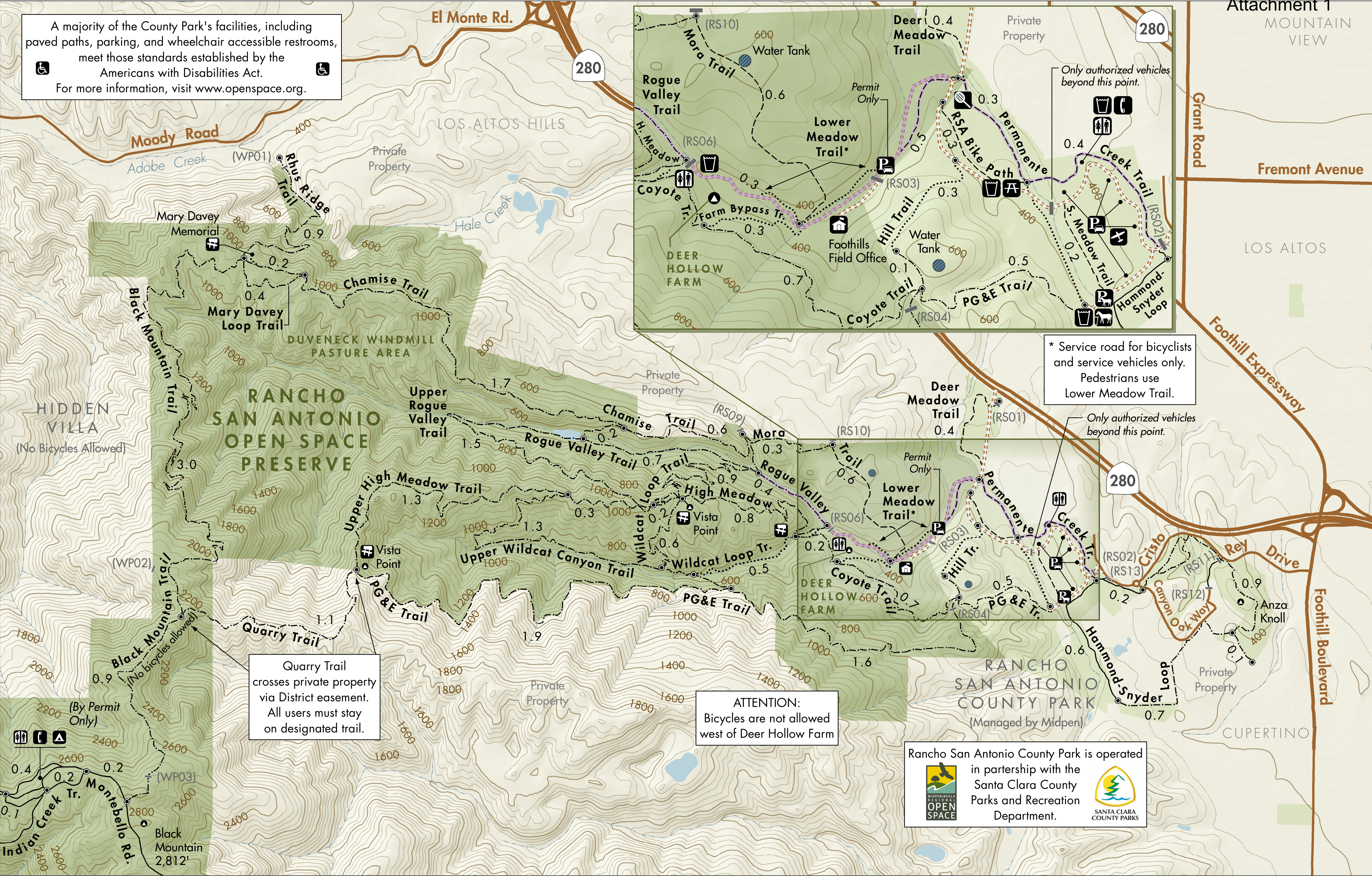
Ana Ruiz, Acting General Manager

Prepared by:

Jennifer Woodworth, District Clerk/Assistant to the General Manager



A majority of the County Park's facilities, including paved paths, parking, and wheelchair accessible restrooms, meet those standards established by the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more information, visit [www.openspace.org](http://www.openspace.org).



\* Service road for bicyclists and service vehicles only. Pedestrians use Lower Meadow Trail.

Quarry Trail crosses private property via District easement. All users must stay on designated trail.

ATTENTION: Bicycles are not allowed west of Deer Hollow Farm

Rancho San Antonio County Park is operated in partnership with the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department.



# Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve

## Map Legend

- Midpen Preserve
- Other Public Land
- Private or Leased Land - No Public Access
- No Public Entry in Midpen Water Areas
- Highway or Major Road
- Important Road
- Vehicle Driveway
- Hiking Only
- Hiking, Bicycling
- Hiking, Equestrian
- Hiking, Bicycling, Equestrian
- Easy Access Trail
- Trail Junction
- Gate (#)
- Parking Lot
- Equestrian Parking
- Point of Interest
- Water Trough
- Picnic Table
- Model Aircraft Field
- Tennis Court
- Water Tank
- Bench
- Backpack Campground (Permit Only)
- Drinking Water
- Field Office
- Public Phone
- Restroom



Dogs not permitted in this Preserve

**In case of emergency, call 911 or 24-hour Ranger Dispatch at (650) 968-4411.**

For your safety, and the protection of the preserves: The preserve is open from dawn until one-half hour after sunset; Please leave natural features, plants, and animals undisturbed; Pack it in, pack it out- Please do not litter; Auto burglaries are increasing; take valuables with you and lock your vehicle.

For More Information Visit [www.openspace.org](http://www.openspace.org) or call (650) 691-1200



Board Policy Manual

<b>Site Naming, Gift, and Special Recognition</b>	<b>Policy 5.01 Chapter 5 – Historical/Cultural</b>
Effective Date: 8/25/93	Revised Date: 11/13/13
Prior Versions: 8/25/93, 9/14/94, 6/24/98, 9/12/01, 10/8/08, 1/13/10, 10/27/10	

I. SITE NAMING

All District site names and signs should be kept as simple and functional as possible. When a property is acquired, either as an addition to an existing preserve or for the establishment of a new preserve, a name will be recommended in the Preliminary Use and Management Plan. In most cases, "open space preserve" is appropriate as part of the name; however, there may be circumstances when another designation may be used. In some cases, a temporary name may be retained until the next Comprehensive Use and Management Plan review.

A. Open Space Preserves

The name given to each open space preserve should be general enough to remain suitable if the site is enlarged, but specific enough to give its location some significance. Properties added to an open space preserve may not always be contiguous with that preserve.

1. Preserves shall be named after:
  - a) Geographical features of broad, general significance to the preserve;
  - b) Historical persons, cultural names, uses, or events broadly associated with the locale.
2. Preserves shall not be named after any individuals other than historical persons as noted above.

B. Preserve Areas, Trails, Site Improvements, Historic Sites and Unnamed Natural Features

This designation refers to specific locations, land formations, trails, natural and physical features, staging areas and other site improvements, and areas of significance within open space preserves. Recognition of significant land gifts, including "bargain" purchases, will be negotiated at the time of the gift or bargain purchase.

1. Preserve areas, trails, site improvements including benches and bridges, historic sites and previously unnamed natural features shall ordinarily be named after:
  - a) Geographical, botanical or zoological identification;



b) Historical persons, uses, or events associated with the site, or persons and organizations listed in Section III: "Special Recognition".

2. Preserve areas, trails, site improvements, historic sites and unnamed natural features may in rare instances be named after a living individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the District, subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

## II. GIFT RECOGNITION

The purpose of the gift recognition policy is to provide an opportunity for the District to recognize and commend individuals or groups that have made significant contributions of cash, equipment, materials, goods or professional services toward the enhancement of the District, its programs, and its facilities.

### A. Unsolicited Cash Gifts:

Up to \$25	Postcard of thanks
\$26 to \$499	Letter signed by General Manager
\$500 to \$1,999	Letter signed by President of the Board
\$2,000 to \$4,999	Letter signed by President of the Board and District gift item (note cards, etc.)
\$5,000 to \$9,999	Letter signed by President of the Board and framed photograph of favorite District preserve
\$10,000 or more	Letter signed by President of the Board and Resolution and framed photograph of District preserve and mention in a District publication*
	*These items will be provided only if desired by the donor.

## III. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Legislative, Funding and Public Affairs Committee (LFPAC) shall be the committee designated to discuss all requests that meet the criteria of the policy for special recognition, made by members of the Board of Directors or by members of the public, including bench memorials and the naming of bridges, and after deliberation shall decide which requests will be referred to the full Board for a vote.

The District places benches in its preserves for three distinct purposes:

### A. District Rest Benches

These benches provide constituents with a place to rest. District staff places these benches without involving a District committee or the full Board. Regular benches must be either a backed or a backless standard bench as described in Section V below.

### B. Constituent Memorial Benches



These are benches which have been requested by constituents in order to honor a member of the public and are funded by the requestors who must pay \$5,000 for the lifetime cost of the bench. LFPAC discusses requests for these benches and decides which requests will be referred to the full Board for a vote. Requests must be in reference to a deceased significant supporter or a volunteer, as defined in the following sections.

a) Constituent memorial benches shall only be placed in locations that have been pre-determined by the District and approved by the Use and Management committee and by the full Board of Directors.

b) If a request for special recognition is approved by the Board of Directors, the requestor(s) shall pay for the cost of constructing, installing and maintaining a memorial bench by contributing \$5,000 to a Memorial Bench Fund to cover the lifetime cost of the bench. The District will put this fund into an interest-bearing account which will be used solely for memorial bench construction, installation, repair, and maintenance.

c) Bench plaques will be 2 x 6 inches in size.

d) Benches must be one of the two District standard bench designs.

#### C. District Memorial Benches

These are benches which are installed by the District in response to requests by members of the Board of Directors to honor deceased "Founders," "Significant Supporters", and "Volunteers".

a) LFPAC can initiate a bench request and refer a decision to the full Board or individual Board members can initiate a bench request which will be referred to LFPAC for discussion before it is referred to the full Board for a final decision. Honorees must be deceased "Founders", "Significant Supporters", and "Volunteers" (per policy Section III D below).

b) For these benches there are no design specification limits or limits on their location. The District will pay for the lifetime cost of the bench.

#### D. Deceased Founders, Significant Supporters, and Volunteers

"Founders", "Significant Supporters", and "Volunteers" are eligible for special recognition, including memorials.

"Founders" shall be defined as an individual or group of individuals who participated in the formation of the District, or were significant supporters of the formation of the District.



"Significant Supporters" shall be defined as individuals or group of individuals who have shown conspicuous or noteworthy support for the District through extraordinary contributions of time and effort to the advancement of the goals, philosophy and mission of the District.

"Volunteers" shall be defined as individuals or groups of individuals who donated their time to the District by working for the District's docent or volunteer program.

#### IV. RECOGNITION OF HISTORIC SITES

A. A recognition monument, normally in plaque form, may be considered by the Board if it is in relation to a specific existing building or other remaining structure of significant historic value. In such cases, the plaque will be affixed or in close proximity to the structure itself. If there is no structure, then recognition may be considered for inclusion on District informational materials or trail signage. Such a site, in the absence of a building or structure, will ordinarily not be physically marked except as determined by the Board on a case-by-case basis as part of the Use and Management planning process for the corresponding open space preserve.

Any Board-approved memorial names shall be included in site brochures, maps, or other informational materials.

#### V. STANDARD BENCH DESIGN SPECIFICATION

A. District Rest Benches and Constituent Memorial benches, described in III(A) and (B) above, are limited to either of the two following standard bench designs:

Backed bench:

Dumor - Bench 88, recycled plastic slates (color: CEDAR), steel leg supports  
(color: BLACK, IMBEDDED)  
6' or 8' lengths

Backless bench:

Dumor - Bench 103, recycled plastic slates (color: CEDAR), steel leg supports  
(color: BLACK, IMBEDDED)  
103-60PL 6' long, 3 supports  
103-80PL 8' long, 3 supports

B. LFPAC can at any point bring designs to the Board that differ from the District's standard bench designs.